

Dear Sir or Ma'am,

Subject: Biennial Review 2002—docket # 02-311

With the biennial telecommunications review coming up shortly; I'd like to make a comment on telecommunications for the disabled. I am hard of hearing and dependent on Voice Carry Over to communicate over the telephone. This is a wonderful system that doesn't require anything from me, other than my voice and ability to read. It could be better and in fact, there is a new system waiting in the wings. Captel, from Ultratec is in trial now and has been approved for hard of hearing/deaf people, who happen to be federal employees. I tried this at a conference recently and it is without a doubt the best new system for people who use their voice but can't hear well enough to talk on the phone normally.

Please do not make the rules weaker, ten percent of Americans; may not seem like a huge number; but that number is growing. Please help us, and future hearing loss folks, we need it.

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Respectfully yours,
Michael Arleth
MA